

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EAID, SU

SUBJECT: SUDAN INTEREST IN SOLAR ENERGY

REF: KHARTOUM 1432 OF JUNE 18, 74

1. AS DEPT AWARE FROM REFTEL AND PREVIOUS, EMBASSY HAD BEEN WORKING WITH GOS IN WAKE ENERGY CRISIS IN LATE 1973-74 TO DEVELOP USEFUL GOS/USG CONTACTS IN SOLAR ENERGY FIELD. SUGGESTION HAD BEEN MADE THAT NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION SOLAR ENERGY EXPERT MIGHT VISIT HERE FOR CONTACTS WITH NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCDW. THIS EFFORT CEASED WHEN OUR COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS WITH SUDAN WERE SUSPENDED IN JULY, 1974, FOR POLITICAL REASONS. NOW THAT OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS HAVE RETURNED TO NORMAL, I RECOMMEND WE SEEK REVIVE THIS OR SIMILAR EXCHANGES IN SOLAR ENERGY FIELD. FAR FROM LOSING INTEREST IN ISSUE, MINISTRY OF PLANNING HAS JUST APPROVED PROJECT OF NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH TO ESTABLISH ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE UNDER SIX-YEAR PLAN WITH ALLOCATION OF 500,000 POUNDS. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF VISIT COULD BE ARRANGED WITH SOME OFFICIAL OF USG ENERGY RESEARCH

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DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (ERDA) TO COUNSEL SUDANESE IN

SOLAR ENERGY FIELD. IN PARTICULAR, INFORMATION RE NEW SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SERI) PROGRAM WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL, SINCE IT WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUEITY ESTABLISH SOME LINKAGE WITH EMBRYONIC SUDANESE INSTITUTE OF SIMILAR NATURE.

2. FOREGOING WOULD CONSTITUTE MOST USEFUL SUPPLEMENT TO DIRECT BILATERAL COOPERATION ON ENERGY MATTERS THROUGH AID ALONG LONES SUGGESTED STATE 258048. THIS CONNECTION, FRENCH GOVERNMENT RECENTLY DONATED TWO SOLAR ENERGY WATER PUMPS FOR TRIAL USE ON BLUE AND WHITE NILEZSBY NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL. SIMILAR ASSISTANCE OF THIS TYPE, IF IT COULD BE SPONSORED BY AID/W, WOULD ASSISTRAUDAN MATERIALLY IN DEVELOPING ITS ALTERNATIVE ENERGY OPTIONS. GOS CONTINUES BE CONCERNED WITH MOUNTING FOREIGN EXCHANGE COSTS OF MEETING ITS ENERGY NEEDS AND IS THUS MOST INTEREST IN TAKING ADVANTAGE ADVANCES IN SOLAR ENERGY FIELD. SAME APPLIES IN AREA WIND ENERGY THOUGH THIS OBVIOUSLY SECONDARY IN COUNTRY WITH SOME 360 DAYS OF BRIGHT SUN ANNUALLY.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPT REQUESTED FOR WAIK LATEST PAMPHLETS ON SOLAR ENERGY FROM ERDA AND SERI FOR TRANSMITTAL TO NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL. IN ADDITION, DEPT REQUESTED PURSUE WITH THOSE AGENCIES WHETHER US OFFICIAL IN SOLAR ENERGY FIELD COULD NOT VISIT SUDAN TO BRIEF LOCAL OFFICIALS ON STATUS AND PROSPECTS USG RESEARCH PROGRAMS. BREWER

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